

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**List of Claims:**

- 1 1. (canceled).
- 1 2. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator comprises an  
2 attenuating coating on the first end of the array of optoelectronic devices.
- 1 3. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator comprises an  
2 attenuating coating on the first end of the array of optical fiberselements.
- 1 4. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator comprises an  
2 attenuating coating on the second end of the array of optical fiberselements.
- 1 5. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator comprises an  
2 attenuating coating on a surface of the optical fibers elements.
- 1 6. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator is capable of  
2 reflecting optical energy.
- 1 7. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator is capable of  
2 scattering optical energy.
- 1 8. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator is capable of  
2 absorbing optical energy.

1       9. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the attenuator comprises a  
2                  diffractive lens positioned at an interstitial space between the first end of the array of  
3                  optoelectronic devices and the first end of the array of optical fiberselements.

1       10. (canceled).

1       11. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 130, wherein the attenuator comprises  
2                  utilizing smoked glass in at least a portion of the optical fiber.

1       12. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13[[0]], wherein the attenuator comprises  
2                  utilizing frosted-glass in at least a portion of the optical fiber.

1       13. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 10 for attenuating the optical output of an  
2                  optoelectronic connector, the apparatus comprising:

3                  a mounting surface;

4                  an array of optoelectronic devices adapted to the mounting surface, the optoelectronic  
5                  devices having at least a first end;

6                  an array of optical fibers, the array of optical fibers having at least a first and a second  
7                  end;

8                  the first end of the array of optical fibers positioned relative to the first end of the array  
9                  of optoelectronic devices in such a manner that one or more optical fibers is  
10                 optically aligned to one or more optoelectronic devices;

11                 an optical path extending from the first end of the array of optoelectronic devices,  
12                 proceeding into the array of optical fibers and terminating at the second end of  
13                 the array of optical fibers; and

14                 an attenuator in the optical path, where the attenuator is capable of attenuating the  
15                 optical energy emitted from one or more optoelectronic devices, wherein the  
16                 attenuator comprises utilizing wavy-glass in at least a portion of the optical  
17                 fiber.

- 1    14. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13[[0]], wherein the attenuator comprises
- 2       utilizing roughened inner surfaces in at least a portion of the optical fiber.
- 1    15. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13[[0]], wherein the attenuator comprises
- 2       utilizing bubbles formed on an inner surface of at least a portion of the optical fiber.
- 1    16. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 13, wherein the optoelectronic devices
- 2       comprise vertical cavity surface emitting lasers.
- 1    17. (original) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the vertical cavity surface emitting lasers
- 2       comprise oxide vertical cavity surface emitting lasers.
- 1    18-24. (canceled).
- 1    25. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner is capable
- 2       of changing the phase distribution of the optical energy that is emitted by the
- 3       optoelectronic devices.
- 1    26. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner is capable
- 2       of changing the distribution of power that is emitted by the optoelectronic devices.
- 1    27. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner comprises
- 2       a coating on the first end of the array of optoelectronic devices.
- 1    28. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner comprises
- 2       a coating on the first end of the array of optical fiberselements.
- 1    29. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner comprises
- 2       a coating on the second end of the array of optical fiberselements.

- 1    30. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner comprises
- 2        a coating on an inner surface of the optical fiberelements.
- 1    31. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the conditioner comprises
- 2        a diffractive lens positioned at an interstitial space between the first end of the array of
- 3        optoelectronic devices and the first end of the array of optical fiberelements.
- 1    32. (canceled).
- 1    33. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[2]], wherein the attenuator conditioner
- 2        comprises utilizing smoked glass in at least a portion of the optical fiber.
- 1    34. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[2]], wherein the attenuator conditioner
- 2        comprises utilizing frosted-glass in at least a portion of the optical fiber.
- 1    35. An apparatus as in claim 32 for conditioning the optical output of an optoelectronic
- 2        connector, the apparatus comprising:
- 3        a mounting surface;
- 4        an array of optoelectronic devices adapted to the mounting surface, the optoelectronic
- 5        devices having at least a first end;
- 6        an array of optical fibers, the array of optical fibers having at least a first and a second
- 7        end;
- 8        the first end of the array of optical fibers positioned relative to the first end of the array
- 9        of optoelectronic devices in such a manner that one or more optical fibers is
- 10      optically aligned to one or more optoelectronic devices;
- 11      an optical path extending from the first end of the array of optoelectronic devices,
- 12      proceeding into the array of optical elements and terminating at the second end
- 13      of the array of optical fibers; and
- 14      a conditioner in the optical path, where the conditioner is capable of conditioning the
- 15      launch of the optical energy into the optical fibers by conditioning the optical

16           energy emitted from the array of optoelectronic devices, wherein the ~~attenuator~~  
17           conditioner comprises utilizing wavy-glass in at least a portion of the optical  
18           fiber.

1       36. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[2]], wherein the ~~conditionerattenuator~~  
2           comprises utilizing roughened inner surfaces in at least a portion of the optical fiber.

1       37. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[2]], wherein the ~~conditionerattenuator~~  
2           comprises utilizing bubbles formed on an inner surface of at least a portion of the  
3           optical fiber.

1       38. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the optoelectronic devices  
2           comprise vertical cavity surface emitting lasers.

1       39. (original) An apparatus as in claim 38, wherein the vertical cavity surface emitting lasers  
2           comprise oxide vertical cavity surface emitting lasers.

1       40. (currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 35[[24]], wherein the optoelectronic devices  
2           comprise photodetectors.

1       41-80. (canceled).